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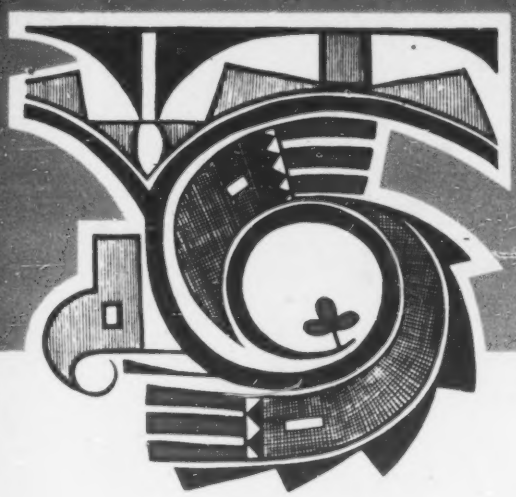

New Mexico Labor Market Review

TONEY ANAYA, GOVERNOR
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT
Imogene Lindsay, Secretary
Volume 15, No. 4, May 29, 1986
Prepared by
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HIGHLIGHTS

Preliminary April labor force estimates indicated a slight worsening in New Mexico's unemployment situation, following a March showing which was also sub-par. Although the amount and rate of unemployment decreased somewhat during April, both changes were less than the springtime improvement normally seen this time of year. New Mexico's unemployment rate of 9.1 percent in April was significantly above the U.S. rate (not seasonally adjusted) of 7.5 percent. The state's jobless rate has remained above the national average since October 1984.

Total nonfarm payroll employment increased only slightly in April to reach an estimated 521,100. Construction added 1,100 jobs, indicating the start of a fairly strong spring pickup in building activity. Employment was also up solidly in lodging places and restaurants as firms geared up for what promises to be a record summer tourist season.

Unfortunately, the April estimates also reflected more layoffs in New Mexico's mining industry. Mining lost 1,100 jobs during the month, with the majority of the losses coming in the oil & gas subsector as falling oil prices continued to devastate the industry. In the last three months, the industry has lost approximately one out of every four of its jobs, and employment in oil & gas extraction is now at an eight-year low. Reduced oil prices also played a part in layoffs in the coal subsector. Kaiser Steel furloughed workers at its York Canyon mine near Raton due to users switching from coal to oil as an energy source and to reduced orders from steel manufacturers specializing in oil field equipment.

With the exception of mining, the short-term outlook for most industries in New Mexico seems to be favorable. Lower interest rates and decreased gasoline prices should contribute to a strong summer for both construction and tourism related industries.

APRIL SUMMARY

	Prel. Apr. 1986	Revised Mar. 1986	Revised Apr. 1985	Change From Mar. 1986	Change From Apr. 1985
Civilian Labor Force	666,300	660,700	643,600	+5,600	+22,700
Employment	605,600	598,700	586,000	+6,900	+19,600
Unemployment	60,700	62,000	57,600	-1,300	+3,100
Rate	9.1%	9.4%	8.9%		

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

NEW MEXICO	PRELIM APR 1986	REVISED MAR 1986	REVISED APR 1985	APR CHANGE FROM MAR 1986	APR CHANGE FROM APR 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	521,100	520,700	516,100	400	5,000
MINING	15,300	16,400	21,200	-1,100	-5,900
Metal Mining	2,300	2,300	3,400	0	-1,100
Bituminous Coal, Quarrying etc	3,400	3,700	4,500	-300	-1,100
Oil & Gas Extraction	9,600	10,400	13,300	-800	-3,700
CONSTRUCTION	36,100	35,000	37,000	1,100	-900
MANUFACTURING	36,600	36,700	36,500	-100	100
DURABLE GOODS	23,900	24,000	23,900	-100	0
Lumber & Wood Products	2,500	2,500	2,400	0	100
Machinery(except electric)	2,600	2,700	2,900	-100	-300
Elec & Electronic Equip	6,500	6,600	6,600	-100	-100
Transportation Equipment	4,000	4,000	3,900	0	100
Other Durable Goods	8,300	8,200	8,100	100	200
NONDURABLE GOODS	12,700	12,700	12,600	0	100
Food & Kindred Products	4,000	4,000	3,800	0	200
Textile & Apparel	2,400	2,400	2,400	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	6,300	6,300	6,400	0	-100
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	28,500	28,800	30,300	-300	-1,800
TRANSPORTATION	12,700	12,700	13,000	0	-300
Railroad Transportation	2,300	2,300	2,400	0	-100
Trucking & Warehousing	5,900	5,900	6,100	0	-200
Other Transportation	4,500	4,500	4,500	0	0
COMMUNICATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	15,800	16,100	17,300	-300	-1,500
Communication	6,800	7,000	7,500	-200	-700
Elec, Gas, & Sanitary Services	9,000	9,100	9,800	-100	-800
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	125,600	125,000	118,100	600	7,500
WHOLESALE TRADE	22,900	22,900	22,800	0	100
Durable Goods	13,600	13,600	13,600	0	0
Nondurable Goods	9,300	9,300	9,200	0	100
RETAIL TRADE	102,700	102,100	95,300	600	7,400
Bldg Material & Mobile Homes	4,700	4,700	4,600	0	100
General Merchandise Stores	12,000	12,000	9,500	0	2,500
Food Stores	15,300	15,200	13,800	100	1,500
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	13,100	13,100	12,900	0	200
Apparel & Accessories	5,600	5,600	5,100	0	500
Furniture & Furnishing	4,300	4,300	4,200	0	100
Eating & Drinking Places	36,000	35,700	34,400	300	1,600
Miscellaneous Retail	11,700	11,500	10,800	200	900
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	26,200	26,100	25,500	100	700
Banking	8,200	8,200	8,400	0	-200
Insurance Carriers	3,300	3,300	3,400	0	-100
Insur Agents, Brokers & Service	2,900	2,900	2,700	0	200
Real Estate	6,300	6,300	5,900	0	400
Other Fin, Ins & Real Estate	5,500	5,400	5,100	100	400
SERVICES	116,100	116,100	111,800	0	4,300
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	12,100	11,500	10,700	600	1,400
Personal Services	6,000	6,000	6,100	0	-100
Business Services	27,400	27,500	26,300	-100	1,100
Health Services	27,200	27,400	26,600	-200	600
Legal Services	4,000	3,900	3,800	100	200
Educational Services	4,000	4,100	4,100	-100	-100
Social Services	7,300	7,200	7,100	100	200
Membership Organizations	6,100	6,100	6,000	0	100
Other Services	22,000	22,400	21,100	-400	900
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	136,700	136,600	135,700	100	1,000
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	29,000	28,800	29,800	200	-800
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	107,700	107,800	105,900	-100	1,800
State Government 2/	49,400	49,600	47,700	-200	1,700
Local Government	58,300	58,200	58,200	100	100

1/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

2/ Includes employees of Los Alamos National Laboratory.

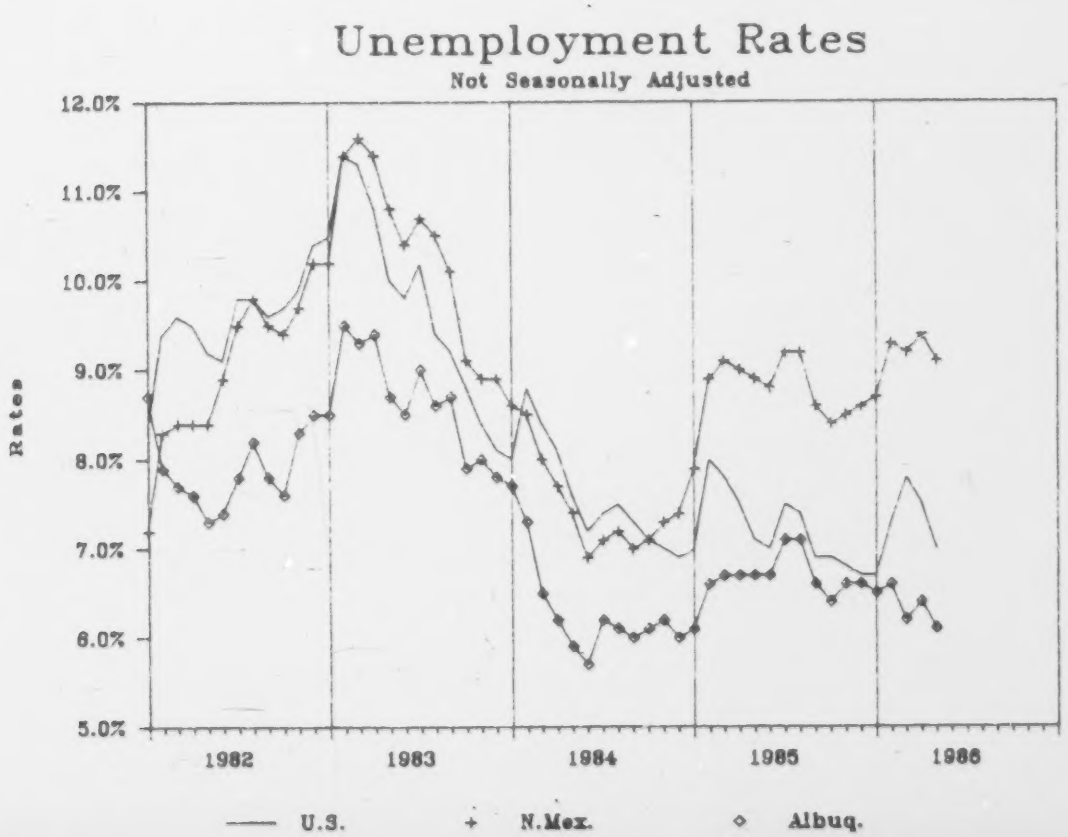
ALBUQUERQUE AREA (BERNALILLO COUNTY)

The Albuquerque area unemployment rate for April fell to 6.1 percent, from the revised March level of 6.4 percent, according to preliminary estimates. A rise of 1,400 in the number of people working combined with a decline of 500 in the number of jobless to produce the lower rate. Both of these changes reflect normal movements for this time of year.

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment edged upward slightly over the month, with a gain of just 400 jobs. Three-fourths of that gain was found in the construction division, specifically among special trades contractors. Other major industrial groups adding close to 100 jobs over the month were real estate companies, eating and drinking places, and lodging places. The major loser of jobs over the month was the local government sector, with a decline of about 200 jobs. The hike in construction employment was greater than would normally be expected at this time of year. The services and finance, insurance, and real estate divisions added jobs but at a slower pace than usually occurs. The trade and government divisions actually experienced employment downturns at a time when seasonal patterns would indicate sizable additions to payrolls.

Over-the-year employment gains were concentrated in the retail trade and services industries; nearly seventy percent of the total job growth was found in these two areas. Particulary notable were advances of more than twenty percent in general merchandise stores and more than fifteen percent in lodging places. Corroborating the employment gain in the lodging places industry are statistics which show there were 1,121 new hotel/motel rooms added in the Albuquerque area during 1985, and many more are currently under construction.

	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Apr. 1986	Mar. 1986	Apr. 1985	Mar. 1986	Apr. 1985
Civilian Labor Force	252,700	251,800	241,700	+ 900	+11,000
Employment	237,200	235,800	225,400	+1,400	+11,800
Unemployment	15,500	16,000	16,300	- 500	- 800
Rate	6.1%	6.4%	6.7%		



ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

ALBUQUERQUE MSA (BERNALILLO COUNTY)	PRELIM APR 1986	REVISED MAR 1986	REVISED APR 1985	APR CHANGE FROM MAR 1986	APR CHANGE FROM APR 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	224,800	224,400	218,000	400	6,800
MINING	300	300	200	0	100
CONSTRUCTION	18,000	17,700	17,600	300	400
MANUFACTURING	19,400	19,400	19,000	0	400
Durable Goods	13,900	13,900	13,600	0	300
Nondurable Goods	5,500	5,500	5,400	0	100
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	12,200	12,200	12,100	0	100
Transportation	5,800	5,800	5,700	0	100
Communication	3,900	3,900	4,000	0	-100
Elec, Gas, & Sanitary Services	2,500	2,500	2,400	0	100
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	57,000	57,100	54,000	-100	3,000
WHOLESALE TRADE	14,200	14,200	14,000	0	200
Durable Goods	9,500	9,500	9,400	0	100
Nondurable Goods	4,700	4,700	4,600	0	100
RETAIL TRADE	42,800	42,900	40,000	-100	2,800
General Merchandise Stores	4,600	4,600	3,800	0	800
Food Stores	4,800	4,900	4,500	-100	300
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	4,800	4,800	4,600	0	200
Eating & Drinking Places	16,000	15,900	15,300	100	700
Other Retail Trade	12,600	12,700	11,800	-100	800
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	13,500	13,400	13,200	100	300
Banking	3,200	3,200	3,200	0	0
Ins Carriers, Agents & Brokers	3,800	3,800	3,700	0	100
Other Fin, Ins & Real Estate	6,500	6,400	6,300	100	200
SERVICES	59,100	58,900	57,200	200	1,900
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	3,700	3,600	3,200	100	500
Personal Services	3,300	3,300	3,300	0	0
Business Services	18,900	18,900	18,300	0	600
Health Services	13,200	13,200	12,900	0	300
Social Services	2,800	2,800	2,800	0	0
Membership Organizations	1,700	1,700	1,700	0	0
Other Services	15,500	15,400	15,000	100	500
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	45,300	45,400	44,700	-100	600
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	12,800	12,700	12,700	100	100
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	32,500	32,700	32,000	-200	500
State Government	13,600	13,600	13,100	0	500
Local Government	18,900	19,100	18,900	-200	0

1/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

LAS CRUCES MSA (DONA ANA COUNTY) 1/	PRELIM APR 1986	REVISED MAR 1986	REVISED APR 1985	APR CHANGE FROM MAR 1986	APR CHANGE FROM APR 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 2/	38,800	38,500	36,900	300	1,900
MINING 3/	0	0	0	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	2,800	2,700	2,600	100	200
MANUFACTURING	3,000	2,950	3,150	50	-150
Durable Goods	1,300	1,250	1,250	50	50
Nondurable Goods	1,700	1,700	1,900	0	-200
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	1,400	1,400	1,400	0	0
Transportation	600	600	600	0	0
Comm, Elec, Gas & Sanitary Svs	800	800	800	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	8,050	7,950	7,250	100	800
WHOLESALE TRADE	800	800	800	0	0
RETAIL TRADE	7,250	7,150	6,450	100	800
General Merchandise Stores	900	900	700	0	200
Food Stores	1,000	1,000	950	0	50
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	850	850	850	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3,100	3,000	2,600	100	500
Other Retail Trade	1,400	1,400	1,350	0	50
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	1,650	1,650	1,500	0	150
SERVICES	5,700	5,650	5,200	50	500
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	650	600	550	50	100
Business Services	900	900	850	0	50
Health Services	1,400	1,400	1,200	0	200
Social Services	350	350	300	0	50
Other Services	2,400	2,400	2,300	0	100
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	16,200	16,200	15,800	0	400
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	4,600	4,700	4,600	-100	0
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	11,600	11,500	11,200	100	400
State Government	6,500	6,400	6,200	100	300
Local Government	5,100	5,100	5,000	0	100

SANTA FE MSA (SANTA FE & LOS ALAMOS COUNTIES) 1/	PRELIM APR 1986	REVISED MAR 1986	REVISED APR 1985	APR CHANGE FROM MAR 1986	APR CHANGE FROM APR 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 2/	50,600	50,400	49,150	200	1,450
MINING	150	150	150	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	3,300	3,200	3,400	100	-100
MANUFACTURING	1,600	1,600	1,450	0	150
Durable Goods	900	900	850	0	50
Nondurable Goods	700	700	600	0	100
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	1,150	1,150	1,150	0	0
Transportation	400	400	350	0	50
Comm, Elec, Gas & Sanitary Svs	750	750	800	0	-50
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	9,650	9,650	8,800	0	850
WHOLESALE TRADE	700	700	650	0	50
RETAIL TRADE	8,950	8,950	8,150	0	800
General Merchandise Stores	950	950	600	0	350
Food Stores	1,150	1,200	1,200	-50	-50
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	900	900	850	0	50
Eating & Drinking Places	3,400	3,400	3,300	0	100
Other Retail Trade	2,550	2,500	2,200	50	350
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	2,000	2,000	1,900	0	100
SERVICES	12,450	12,150	12,100	300	350
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	1,800	1,400	1,650	400	150
Business Services	2,900	2,900	2,800	0	100
Health Services	2,600	2,600	2,600	0	0
Social Services	550	550	550	0	0
Other Services	4,600	4,700	4,500	-100	100
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	20,300	20,500	20,200	-200	100
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	1,400	1,400	1,600	0	-200
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	18,900	19,100	18,600	-200	300
State Government 4/	15,200	15,400	14,800	-200	400
Local Government	3,700	3,700	3,800	0	-100

1/ In accordance with the CES Manual, those published cells with less than 2,000 employees are rounded to nearest 50. Those published cells with more than 2,000 employees are rounded to 100.

2/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

3/ The employment for the Las Cruces MSA is rounded to fifty. Because employment in this industry is below 25 it appears as zero.

4/ Includes employees of Los Alamos National Laboratory.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS

Hours and Earnings of Production, Construction and Nonsupervisory Employees
(Prepared in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
NEW MEXICO	APR 1986	MAR 1986	APR 1985	APR 1986	MAR 1986	APR 1985	APR 1986	MAR 1986	APR 1985
MINING	$497.90	$492.66	$509.12	41.7	39.1	43.0	11.94	12.60	11.84
CONSTRUCTION	$398.33	$396.27	$380.54	37.9	35.7	35.9	10.51	11.10	10.60
MANUFACTURING	$344.86	$349.44	$328.45	40.1	39.8	40.4	8.60	8.78	8.13
Durable Goods	$359.86	$350.95	$341.55	40.8	39.7	41.5	8.82	8.84	8.23
Nondurable Goods	$311.89	$346.87	$300.23	38.6	40.1	38.1	8.08	8.65	7.88
COMMUNICATION & UTILITIES	$454.98	$504.61	$457.97	41.1	42.8	41.9	11.07	11.79	10.93
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	$210.93	$214.88	$222.06	32.5	31.6	32.8	6.49	6.80	6.77
Wholesale Trade	$334.32	$379.36	$389.34	39.8	40.4	41.2	8.40	9.39	9.45
Retail Trade	$186.31	$182.39	$186.31	31.0	29.9	31.0	6.01	6.10	6.01
BANKING	$220.02	$235.07	$210.65	38.0	40.6	38.3	5.79	5.79	5.50
ALBUQUERQUE MSA									
MANUFACTURING	U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics has been forced to cancel funds for this series due to reductions caused by the Gramm - Rudman - Hollings Balanced Budget Act.								
Durable Goods									
Nondurable Goods									

NOTE: Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded. The average earnings are "gross" reflecting not only changes in basic hourly and incentive wage rates but also such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differentials. The work week information relates to the average hours for which pay was received, and is different from standard or scheduled hours due to absenteeism, labor turnover, part time work, overtime work etc.

Additional Information on State Government Employment

Number of Classified State Govt. Workers

April 1986	15,235
March 1986	15,278
April 1985	15,107

These figures include classified employees working for classified agencies of the executive branch of state government. This information is furnished by the New Mexico State Personnel Office.

U.S.CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
April 1986

CPI-U - 325.3
CPI-W - 320.4

(Base Year 1967 = 100)

CPI-U - All Urban Consumers
CPI-W - Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers

AREA ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

STATEWIDE: Reports from National and State Parks, State Highway Visitor Centers, and other tourism-related sources indicate the tourism season is off to an early start and that 1986 should be a record year. One State official predicts tourism will pump more than $2 billion into New Mexico's economy this year. The oil industry is continuing to falter, resulting in a revenue shortfall for the State treasury. As a result, public school districts across the state are preparing to trim their budgets for next year by about two percent. The cuts will be accomplished in administrative areas if possible and by teaching staff reductions if necessary.

ALBUQUERQUE AREA: The Albuquerque Public Schools' proposed reorganization will eliminate 31 administrative jobs but add five new positions. Between now and September, about $4.2 million of construction and renovation work will be accomplished at the State Fairgrounds. Construction work is in progress on a new Smith's supermarket in Fair Plaza shopping center. Road construction will soon begin at the $300 million "High Resort" development at Rio Rancho. The development will eventually include a 500-room hotel, a regional shopping center, and 4,000 residences. Construction of homes and a golf course addition should begin later this year. Materials, Inc., a pre-cast concrete company, has begun operating at its new Rio Rancho facility with a staff of sixteen employees. A new Safeway store has opened in Rio Rancho's Southern Plaza shopping center. A new $17.5 million, 231-suite Radisson Suite Hotel has been announced, with construction expected to commence next fall adjacent to American Square. The hotel/restaurant complex will employ about 250 people. Construction has begun on the first group of an eventual 124-home development on Academy Boulevard near Tramway Boulevard.

CARLSBAD / ARTESIA AREA: The International Minerals and Chemical Corp. (IMC) potash mine will close for three weeks beginning June 8 for maintenance and employee vacations. IMC employs almost 600 workers. Employment at the Waste Isolation Pilot Project (WIPP) currently stands at about 600. The WIPP work force can be expected to gradually decrease through the remainder of this year as construction work is completed on the project.

CLOVIS / PORTALES AREA: Frozfruit is currently employing approximately 130 persons at the firm's new manufacturing plant in Clovis. When in full production, the Clovis plant is expected to employ approximately 300 workers during the peak production season of April through August of each year. A new Super 8 Motel is scheduled to be built in Clovis, with the opening date for the facility targeted for late summer. Cummins Gas Engines has completed most of their renovation work at the old Levi Strauss plant in Clovis, and company officials anticipate moving into the facility in early June.

ESPANOLA AREA: Work on Chama's $1.5 million sewage treatment plant has resumed; the work is being performed by Avery Structures of Buena Vista, Colorado. Construction work is also underway on the new hydroelectric power plant project at El Vado Dam; completion is expected by June 1987. Construction has begun on a $250,000 water line along Fairview Lane in Espanola; this project should take about ninety days to complete.

FARMINGTON AREA: Construction of a $2.5 million, 36-unit resort facility at Navajo Lake State Park has been proposed; but some local opposition was voiced at a public hearing. A bid for $118,610 worth of miscellaneous site improvements at Farmington's Swinburne Elementary School was awarded to Asphalt Paving Company. Amoco Production Company announced nationwide staff cuts of 15 percent, but company officials did not know how many jobs would be lost in the Farmington area; meanwhile, construction continues on the company's Farmington office building.

GALLUP / GRANTS AREA: A new Wal-Mart store will soon open in Gallup and is expected to employ from 150 to 200 people. The Navajo Tribe will be allowed to keep Federal money for 250 new homes, which the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development had recently threatened to take away. Chevron Resources plans to continue uranium mining at their property near Grants during the remainder of 1986 and expects to produce 600 tons of ore per day.

HOBBS / LOVINGTON AREA: Amoco Production Co. is planning to locate a new carbon dioxide recovery plant near Denver City, TX, which should create approximately 200 to 250 construction jobs during its construction phase. The new plant will be under construction for about one year, and the facility will employ about 30 full-time workers during operation. An undisclosed firm is negotiating to purchase the closed Southern Union Co. gasoline refinery near Lovington. Officials indicate that if negotiations are consummated, the new owner will reopen the refinery, resulting in the hiring of approximately 100 workers. A building permit in the amount of $650,000 was issued to Mall Caddo Peak Investments for construction of a shopping center in Hobbs. Oil well drilling activity continues well below normal, with the rotary drilling rig count for the Permian Basin at 117, compared with 287 rigs operating one year ago. Valley Construction Co. of Las Cruces was awarded a $1 million contract for construction of the new Lea County National Guard Armory.

LAS CRUCES AREA: MicroSwitch, which has electronic manufacturing operations in both Las Cruces and Juarez, plans to change division headquarters from Freeport, Il. to the Las Cruces-El Paso-Juarez area. The company will expand warehouse facilities in both Las Cruces and Juarez, which should mean additional employment by the firm. The Santa Teresa Airport and surrounding land extending seven miles south to the U.S.- Mexico border have been declared an international port of entry by the U.S. Customs Service. For now, international travel is limited to air traffic; however, Mexican and U.S. business groups are working toward establishing highway border crossing facilities at the site.

LAS VEGAS AREA: The La Plaza Vieja Partnership is about to commence restoration and redevelopment work on 18 historic buildings in the Old Town district of Las Vegas. The project is expected to create about twenty jobs. D. M. Premier, which handles food service for New Mexico Highlands University, has laid off about twenty employees for the summer months.

LOS ALAMOS AREA: Notwithstanding their zero growth policy, officials of Los Alamos National Laboratory expect to have about 300 job openings during the next year as a result of normal work force attrition and turnover. A 110-unit residential development is planned for the North Mesa area; homes will be in the $80,000-$90,000 price range.

RATON / CLAYTON AREA: More than 200 laid-off workers have been recalled to the Kaiser Coal Company York Canyon mine; 132 miners remain on layoff status. A new seafood restaurant, Captain's Quarters, and a new hairstyling shop, A Cut Above, recently opened in Raton; but Raton's Hobo Joe's restaurant recently closed, resulting in the loss of fifteen jobs. A new restaurant business is expected to take over the facility in the near future.

SANTA FE AREA: Santa Fe's prospects for the summer tourism season were boosted when the city hosted ABC's "Good Morning America" program in early May. The Santa Fe City Council has approved Hospital Corporation of America's plan to build an Alzheimer's Disease treatment/research center.

SILVER CITY AREA: Gila Regional Medical Center officials have announced the layoff of approximately 20 hospital staff members. Chino Mines Co. officials have stated that if current contract talks with Chino unions result in a strike on July 1, the company will continue to operate its copper mine and mill using replacement workers.

(Continued on page 10)

NEW MEXICO LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES 1/

	PRELIMINARY APRIL 1986				REVISED MARCH 1986				REVISED APRIL 1985			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
STATEWIDE	666,305	605,558	60,747	9.1%	660,612	598,662	61,950	9.4%	643,594	586,016	57,578	8.9%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 2/	252,691	237,199	15,492	6.1%	251,755	235,761	15,994	6.4%	241,654	225,383	16,271	6.7%
LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	53,725	49,910	3,815	7.1%	52,684	48,612	4,072	7.7%	49,454	45,183	4,271	8.6%
SANTA FE MSA 4/	62,108	58,844	3,264	5.3%	61,046	57,510	3,536	5.8%	57,752	54,662	3,090	5.4%
Catron	1,031	850	181	17.6%	994	758	236	23.7%	980	767	213	21.7%
Chaves	23,213	21,107	2,106	9.1%	23,063	20,725	2,338	10.1%	22,947	21,167	1,780	7.8%
Cibola	8,657	7,028	1,629	18.8%	8,654	6,893	1,761	20.3%	9,118	6,787	2,331	25.6%
Colfax	6,947	5,485	1,462	21.0%	6,670	5,775	895	13.4%	6,606	5,785	821	12.4%
Curry	16,841	15,769	1,072	6.4%	16,549	15,338	1,211	7.3%	16,189	14,935	1,254	7.7%
De Baca	914	807	107	11.7%	917	776	141	15.4%	915	803	112	12.2%
Eddy	22,375	19,344	3,031	13.5%	22,290	19,223	3,067	13.8%	21,849	19,501	2,348	10.7%
Grant	9,868	8,734	1,134	11.5%	9,918	8,683	1,235	12.5%	10,069	8,564	1,505	14.9%
Guadalupe	1,630	1,417	213	13.1%	1,644	1,361	283	17.2%	1,540	1,314	226	14.7%
Harding	471	417	54	11.5%	451	392	59	13.1%	484	432	52	10.7%
Hidalgo	2,397	2,248	149	6.2%	2,373	2,210	163	6.9%	2,442	2,264	178	7.3%
Lea	25,257	22,319	2,938	11.6%	25,260	22,896	2,364	9.4%	26,438	24,894	1,544	5.8%
Lincoln	7,317	6,788	529	7.2%	7,224	6,645	579	8.0%	6,902	6,471	431	6.2%
Luna	5,457	4,628	829	15.2%	5,391	4,525	866	16.1%	5,335	4,427	908	17.0%
McKinley	17,177	15,140	2,037	11.9%	17,241	14,989	2,252	13.1%	16,855	14,733	2,122	12.6%
Mora	1,481	950	531	35.9%	1,522	951	571	37.5%	1,444	1,030	414	28.7%
Otero	17,439	16,061	1,378	7.9%	17,277	15,777	1,500	8.7%	16,818	15,454	1,364	8.1%
Quay	4,574	4,140	434	9.5%	4,342	3,928	414	9.5%	4,471	4,042	429	9.6%
Rio Arriba	13,347	10,340	3,007	22.5%	13,080	9,994	3,086	23.6%	15,025	12,211	2,814	18.7%
Roosevelt	7,504	7,124	380	5.1%	7,312	6,911	401	5.5%	7,167	6,817	350	4.9%
Sandoval	21,488	19,768	1,720	8.0%	20,788	18,858	1,930	9.3%	20,398	18,663	1,735	8.5%
San Juan	34,510	28,710	5,800	16.8%	34,430	28,862	5,568	16.2%	34,692	29,896	4,796	13.8%
San Miguel	10,377	9,003	1,374	13.2%	10,134	8,683	1,451	14.3%	10,010	8,615	1,395	13.9%
Sierra	2,311	2,136	175	7.6%	2,347	2,160	187	8.0%	2,155	1,966	189	8.8%
Socorro	5,797	5,250	547	9.4%	5,696	5,170	526	9.2%	5,368	4,983	385	7.2%
Taos	10,473	7,024	3,449	32.9%	10,960	7,736	3,224	29.4%	10,644	8,223	2,421	22.7%
Torrance	3,065	2,677	388	12.7%	3,082	2,660	422	13.7%	3,027	2,733	294	9.7%
Union	2,057	1,880	177	8.6%	2,036	1,832	204	10.0%	2,045	1,867	178	8.7%
Valencia	13,806	12,461	1,345	9.7%	13,482	12,068	1,414	10.5%	12,801	11,444	1,357	10.6%

1/ All estimates are made in strict accordance with methodology provided by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

2/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Bernalillo County

3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Dona Ana County

4/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Santa Fe and Los Alamos Counties

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SOCORRO / BELEN AREA: New Mexico Tech Regents recently approved three contracts for the New Mexico Tech campus in Socorro. A $5.6 million contract for a new mineral sciences and engineering building was awarded to Midcon of New Mexico; R. L. Stacy Construction has a $400,000 contract for campus paving; and Universal Communications Systems, Inc. was awarded a $461,000 contract for a new digital phone system.

T or C AREA: Western Lake Corporation, a group of eastern investors, has purchased the Elephant Butte Resort Golf Course and surrounding land, and the firm's future plans call for course expansion and the building of tennis courts and club house facilities. Long range plans include the building of condominiums and other residential developments.

TAOS / ANGEL FIRE AREA: The February Molycorp layoff is beginning to affect the wider area economy. General business in Questa is reported to be off about 50 percent. Some Taos retailers have either reduced their work forces or cut employees' hours in response to lower demand by their customers. The Farm, a fresh produce store, and the Taos Lanes bowling establishment recently closed down. It now appears that Angel Fire's financially-troubled Plaza Hotel will not reopen until mid-summer. Red River is expecting a slower construction year because many of its traditional visitors and investors are being adversely affected by the depressed oil business. Carson National Forest has recalled about 20 seasonal workers and expects to hire about 20 more during the next month or so.

TUCUMCARI AREA: Several new businesses in the retail trade and services sectors have recently opened in Logan. Tourism-related businesses in Tucumcari are beginning to see more activity. The construction industry is being helped by highway work, a new building at Tucumcari Area Vocational School, a new motel, and some new residential construction.